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Economic Commission for Europe

Executive Committee

Sixty-eighth meeting
Geneva, 30 April 2014
Item 7(a) of the provisional agenda
Decisions on matters relating to the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration

Draft Decision

Decision approving the establishment of a Public-Private Partnership Business Advisory Board

1. At its fifth session (Geneva, 5–6 February 2013), the Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnership (TOS PPP) endorsed the recommendation by its Bureau to set up a PPP Business Advisory Board to serve as a key component in the work of the International PPP Centre of Excellence (ICoE). At its eighth session (Geneva, 12–14 February 2014), the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (CECI) recommended the establishment of a PPP Business Advisory Board to assist countries with the implementation of ECE PPP best practices and standards, and the approval of the Executive Committee in this regard.

2. The PPP Business Advisory Board will be supported within the existing resources of the ECE secretariat. Consultative missions in countries by the Board to member countries will be subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources.

3. The Executive Committee, at is sixty-eighth meeting on 30 April 2014, approved the establishment of the PPP Business Advisory Board, with its mandate and Terms of Reference as contained in the Annex.

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Annex

Mandate and Terms of Reference of the PPP Business Advisory Board

I. Background

1. Since the establishment of the UNECE Team of Specialists on Public-Private Partnership (TOS PPP) in 2008, the idea to create a body that brings private sector expertise to the ECE PPP capacity-building programme has been fully supported by ECE member States. With the setting up of the International PPP Centre of Excellence (ICoE) in 2012, the proposal for a private sector advisory body gathered momentum and led to the decision of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Integration (CECI), at its eighth session in February 2014, to recommend the establishment of a PPP Business Advisory Board (BAB).

II. Objectives

2. The Business Advisory Board will:

(a) Advise the ICoE on the elaboration of international best practices and standards.

(b) Assist member States with the implementation of international PPP best practices and standards through high-level consultative meetings.

3. The expected duration of the Business Advisory Board is until 31 December 2017, with the possibility of extension.

III. Areas of work

4. The activities of the Business Advisory Board include:

(a) Direct face-to-face consultations with key policy makers in member countries on project delivery, development and implementation;

(b) Peer reviews of selected draft PPP recommendations and standards; and

(c) Assistance to PPP Specialist Centres hosted in countries, and affiliated to the ICoE, to become operational and to identify international PPP best practices in their respective sector.

IV. Membership

5. Participation in the PPP Business Advisory Board will be open to senior representatives from the business sector with a proven track record of international PPP experience.

6. The BAB will consist of between 20 and 30 distinguished high-level business persons who are recognized for their outstanding contributions to the development and use of public-private partnerships either in their respective countries or worldwide.

Members will be selected in such a way as to provide a comprehensive coverage of key issues and sectors.

7. Nominations for the BAB can be made by CECI and TOS PPP delegates and by member States. The nominations will be reviewed by the Governing Body of the ICoE, which will make recommendations to the Executive Secretary. The Executive Secretary will appoint the Chairman and the Members of the BAB for a period of two years, with a possible extension of an additional two-year term for a total of two consecutive terms, subject to review by the Governing Body of the ICoE.

8. The Bureau of TOS PPP and representatives from relevant international organizations working in the area of public-private partnership (including the Asian Development Bank, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Investment Bank, and the World Bank) will be invited to participate in BAB meetings and contribute their expertise as observers.

V. Modalities of operation

9. The BAB will report to the TOS PPP. It derives its legitimacy and mandate from this body. It will carry out its work on the basis of an annual work plan.

10. The BAB will meet physically at least once a year, usually in conjunction with the annual session of CECI or TOS PPP. BAB Members will participate in a number of high-level consultation missions in member States. Consultation missions will be based on requests from member States received by the secretariat and will be considered on the basis of available capacity and extrabudgetary resources.

11. The secretariat will:

(a) Provide secretariat support to the BAB;

(b) Organize and participate in its consultation missions and meetings; and

(c) Assist in preparing the BAB's annual work plan

12. As the work of the BAB develops, the secretariat will prepare a code of conduct for BAB members that covers the major elements for protecting the UN interests, such as confidentiality of information, and the protection of use of the UN emblem and name.

13. The BAB Chairman and Members will provide their time and expertise on a pro bono basis without remuneration.

14. The BAB Members participating in consultation missions in member States may have their local expenses and airfare covered through extrabudgetary funding, when such funding is needed and available.